AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

1.-15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently amended) A method for verifying information on a managed device, comprising:

receiving a <u>SNMP GET</u> request <u>identifying an SNMP MIB object and also</u> containing one or more <u>non-null</u> values comprising proposals for a correct value of ~~an~~ <u>the</u> SNMP MIB object;

wherein the request requests a determination as to whether any of the one or more values match the correct value ~~of~~ <u>stored in</u> the SNMP MIB object of the managed device,

determining whether any of the one or more values match the correct value ~~of~~ <u>stored in</u> the SNMP MIB object; and

completing execution of the request by:

transmitting a notification message indicating whether any of the one or more values match the correct value of the SNMP MIB object

<u>and without providing the correct value in response to the request</u>.

17. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 16, wherein the notification message identifies<u>, using an index position and not the correct value,</u> which one of the one or more values match the correct value ~~of~~ <u>stored in</u> the SNMP MIB object.

18. (Original) The method of Claim 16, wherein a specification for the SNMP MIB object is not generally available.

19. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 16, wherein the SNMP MIB object stores an attribute <u>for a user credential</u> for a protocol other than SNMP.

20. (Original) The method of Claim 16, wherein the SNMP MIB object stores a username or a password for one member of the following group consisting of: a telnet protocol, a SSH protocol, a TFTP protocol, a RCP protocol, a SNMP protocol, a TACACS protocol, and a RADIUS protocol.

21.   (Previously presented) The method of Claim 16, wherein the determining step results in determining that none of the one or more values match the correct value of the SNMP MIB object, and wherein the transmitting step completing execution of the request comprises transmitting a notification message that includes an error message that describes an encountered problem in determining whether the one or more values match the correct value of the SNMP MIB object.

22.   (Original) The method of Claim 16, wherein the transmittal step comprises the step of storing, in a specified MIB object of the managed device, a notification value indicating whether any of the one or more values match the correct value of the SNMP MIB object.

23.-37. (Canceled)

38.   (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium for verifying information on a managed device, comprising:

receiving a <u>SNMP GET </u>request <u>identifying an SNMP MIB object and also </u>containing
         one or more <u>non-null </u>values comprising proposals for a correct value of <s>an </s><u>the</u>
         SNMP MIB object;
wherein the request requests a determination as to whether any of the one or more values
         match the correct value <s>of </s><u>stored in </u>the SNMP MIB object of the managed device,
determining whether any of the one or more values match the correct value <s>of</s><u>stored in</u>
         the SNMP MIB object; and
completing execution of the request by:
transmitting a notification message indicating whether any of the one or more values
         match the correct value of the SNMP MIB object
<u>and without providing the correct value in response to the request</u>.

39.   (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of Claim 38, wherein the notification message identifies<u>, using an index position and not the correct value,</u> which one of the one or more values match the correct value <s>of</s><u>stored in </u>the SNMP MIB object.

40.   (Previously presented) The computer-readable storage medium of Claim 38, wherein a specification for the SNMP MIB object is not generally available.

41.   (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of Claim 38, wherein the SNMP MIB object stores an attribute <u>for a user credential</u> for a protocol other than SNMP.

42.   (Previously presented) The computer-readable storage medium of Claim 38, wherein the SNMP MIB object stores a username or a password for one member of the following group consisting of: a telnet protocol, a SSH protocol, a TFTP protocol, a RCP protocol, a SNMP protocol, a TACACS protocol, and a RADIUS protocol.

43.   (Previously presented) The computer-readable storage medium of Claim 38, wherein the determining step results in determining that none of the one or more values match the correct value of the SNMP MIB object, and wherein the transmitting step comprises transmitting a notification message that includes an error message that describes an encountered problem in determining whether the one or more values match the correct value of the SNMP MIB object.

44.   (Previously presented) The computer-readable storage medium of Claim 38, wherein the transmitting step completing execution of the request comprises the step of storing, in a specified MIB object of the managed device, a notification value indicating whether any of the one or more values match the correct value of the SNMP MIB object.

45.-59. (Canceled)

60.   (Currently amended) An apparatus for verifying information on a managed device, comprising:
        means for receiving a <u>SNMP GET</u> request <u>identifying an SNMP MIB object and also</u>
                containing one or more <u>non-null</u> values comprising proposals for a correct value
                of <s>an</s> <u>the</u> SNMP MIB object;
        wherein the request requests a determination as to whether any of the one or more values
                match the correct value <s>of</s> <u>stored in</u> the SNMP MIB object of the managed device,
        means for determining whether any of the one or more values match the correct value <s>of</s>
                <u>stored in</u> the SNMP MIB object; and
        means for completing execution of the request comprising:

means for transmitting a notification message indicating whether any of the one or more

values match the correct value of the SNMP MIB object

<u>and without providing the correct value in response to the request.</u>

61.   (Currently amended) The apparatus of Claim 60, wherein the notification message

identifies<u>, using an index position and not the correct value,</u> which one of the one or more

values match the correct value ~~of~~ <u>stored in</u> the SNMP MIB.

62.   (Original) The apparatus of Claim 60, wherein a specification for the SNMP MIB object

is not generally available.

63.   (Currently amended) The apparatus of Claim 60, wherein the SNMP MIB object stores

an attribute <u>for a user credential</u> for a protocol other than SNMP.

64.   (Original) The apparatus of Claim 60, wherein the SNMP MIB object stores a username

or a password for one member of the following group consisting of: a telnet protocol, a

SSH protocol, a TFTP protocol, a RCP protocol, a SNMP protocol, a TACACS protocol,

and a RADIUS protocol.

65.   (Original) The apparatus of Claim 60, wherein the means for determining determines

that none of the one or more values match the correct value of the SNMP MIB object,

and wherein the means for transmitting transmits a notification message that includes an

error message that describes an encountered problem in determining whether the one or

more values match the correct value of the SNMP MIB object.

66.   (Original) The apparatus of Claim 60, wherein the means for transmitting comprises

means for storing, in a specified MIB object of the managed device, a notification value

indicating whether any of the one or more values match the correct value of the SNMP

MIB object.

67.-81. (Canceled)

82.   (Currently amended) An apparatus, comprising:
       one or more processors; and

a computer-readable storage medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions for

verifying information on a managed device, wherein execution of the one or more

sequences of instructions by the one or more processors causes the one or more

processors to perform the steps of:

receiving a SNMP GET request identifying an SNMP MIB object and also containing

one or more non-null values comprising proposals for a correct value of an the

SNMP MIB object;

wherein the request requests a determination as to whether any of the one or more values

match the correct value of stored in the SNMP MIB object of the managed device,

determining whether any of the one or more values match the correct value of stored in

the SNMP MIB object; and

completing execution of the request by:

transmitting a notification message indicating whether any of the one or more values

match the correct value of the SNMP MIB object

and without providing the correct value in response to the request.

83.   (Currently amended) The apparatus of Claim 82, wherein the notification message

identifies, using an index position and not the correct value, which one of the one or more

values match the correct value of stored in the SNMP MIB object.

84.   (Original) The apparatus of Claim 82, wherein a specification for the SNMP MIB object

is not generally available.

85.   (Currently amended) The apparatus of Claim 82, wherein the SNMP MIB object stores

an attribute for a user credential for a protocol other than SNMP.

86.   (Original) The apparatus of Claim 82, wherein the SNMP MIB object stores a username

or a password for one member of the following group consisting of: a telnet protocol, a

SSH protocol, a TFTP protocol, a RCP protocol, a SNMP protocol, a TACACS protocol,

and a RADIUS protocol.

87.   (Original) The apparatus of Claim 82, wherein the determining step results in

determining that none of the one or more values match the correct value of the SNMP

MIB object, and wherein the transmitting step comprises transmitting a notification message that includes an error message that describes an encountered problem in determining whether the one or more values match the correct value of the SNMP MIB object.

88.   (Original) The apparatus of Claim 82, wherein the transmitting step comprises the step of storing, in a specified MIB object of the managed device, a notification value indicating whether any of the one or more values match the correct value of the SNMP MIB object.